

Preparedness Level moves to 3 regionally and nationally; Moisture in forecast

Both the Northwest regional and national preparedness levels dropped to 3 today. Fire growth on large fires occurred primarily on the Klondike Fire and Terwilliger Fire (Oregon), the Natchez Fire (Oregon-California), and the Crescent Mountain Fire (Washington). The Cougar Creek Fire (Oregon) showed a smoke column yesterday though no threat to the lines. The Miles and Columbus Fires have joined, and were burning in huckleberry areas utilized by the Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe.

Otherwise, fires continue with mop-up, patrol and fireline repair. The changing winds and lower humidity continue to allow fires to burn available fuels, with low pressure and an extended outlook for moisture expected to moderate fire activity over the weekend.

Initial attack has been light and successful. The 12-acre Row River fire under Oregon Department of Forestry protection burned at least seven structures and a small portion of BLM land near Cottage Grove. Crews have been pulled off the line of an emerging event in central Oregon, due to winds.

<https://kval.com/news/local/row-river-fire-a-lot-of-devastation-some-of-these-houses-were-just-ashes>

Burned area emergency response teams are being assembled for eight fires, and will be activated beginning today.

Smoke will continue in southwest Oregon, the Mt. Hood area, and north-central Washington. Smoke forecast for the weekend -- for Sunday, Sept 9, 1 pm:

<https://tools.airfire.org/websky/v1/run/standard/PNW4km-CMAQ/2018090700/#viewer>

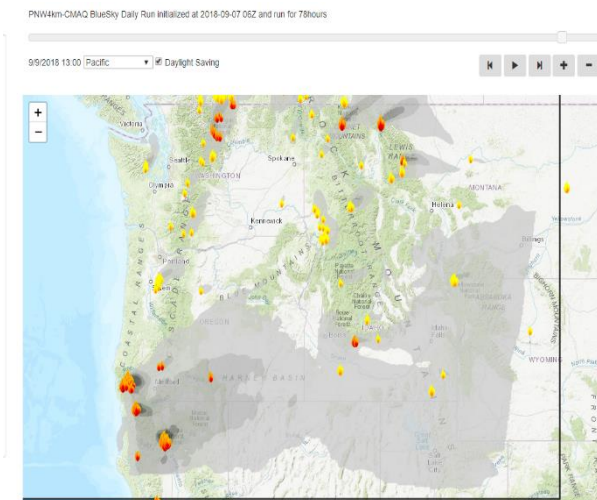


Figure 1 Smoke forecast for Sunday

Fire Weather and Fire Potential

Expect a cooling and moistening trend to begin over the region today and last into next week. Some light rain will become likely for western Washington and northwestern Oregon tonight and again late Sunday as a series of cold fronts moves in from the Pacific. Westerly winds will begin to pick up, which will aid in clearing smoke. Accumulation of rain is expected to continue next week, mainly over the west side and higher elevations on the east side.

Fire danger indices are poised to begin declining this weekend and through next week as cooler wetter conditions take hold over the region. Fire indices will return to near-average levels -- not seen since early July. The risk for development of new significant fires will drop correspondingly. Accumulation of rain and cooler temperatures at higher elevations will become a factor next week for ongoing incidents due to exposure of personnel as weather elements deteriorate.

Helpful Links

- PNW Execs blog: pnwexecs.blogspot.com
- NWCC Blog: <http://nwccinfo.blogspot.com/>
- Oregon Smoke blog: <http://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com/>
- Washington Smoke blog: <http://wasmoke.blogspot.com/>
- 7-Day Fire Potential : <https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/content/products/fwx/guidance/DL.pdf>
- Morning Brief: <https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/content/products/intelligence/MORNINGBRIEF.pdf>
- Helpful Wind Map: <https://www.windy.com/?44.143,-119.773,6,i:pressure>

Fire-related articles

- Air tanker to be retired Sunday. Klamath (OR) Herald and News. https://www.heraldandnews.com/news/local_news/air-tanker-to-be-retired-sunday/article_5ca98ff0-9240-5c3b-8da3-9a3c9ab2517f.html
- "Senators urge wider methods to gauge drought impact from lower snowpack to wildfire activity." KTVZ News Channel 21, Central Oregon. <https://www.ktvz.com/news/senators-urge-wider-methods-to-gauge-drought-impact/791678136>
- Out-Of-Control NorCal Wildfire Shuts Down 5 Freeway Through Weekend." KCAL-9 CBS Los Angeles. <https://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2018/09/07/norcal-delta-fire-shuts-down-5-freeway-weekend/>
- Terwilliger firefighter injured in hit-and-run no longer in critical condition <https://www.registerguard.com/news/20180906/terwilliger-firefighter-injured-in-hit-and-run-no-longer-in-critical-condition>
- Fire season looking to break retardant drop record <https://ktvl.com/news/local/fire-season-looking-to-break-retardant-drop-record>

Emerging Incidents

Washington: No emerging incidents. Of note, the Snowy Mountain Fire has burned from Canada into the United States. The 500-acre spread is burning mostly DNR managed lands and is two miles away from a containment line.

Oregon: Incident 1144, on the east side of Twin Lakes, near China Hat Road and 14 miles east of Sunriver, is reported at 120-150 acres on the Deschutes National Forest. Aviation resources have been assigned. With a wind shift, initial attack resources were pulled off the line. A local type 3 team will assume command at 6 a.m. tomorrow.

California

- Interstate 5 remains closed north of Redding and south of Mt. Shasta due to the Delta Fire, currently mapped at 24,558 acres. An evacuation center has been opened in Mt. Shasta.
- Fire information: <https://inciweb.nwcc.gov/incident/6191/>
- Road closure information: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/roadinfo/display.php?page=i5>

Large Incidents - Washington

Crescent Mountain/Mcleod/Holman Fires: NR IMT 1, IC Turman, is managing the 49,277 acre (no IR last night) [Crescent Mountain Fire](#), the 22,511-acre [McLeod Fire](#), and the 300-acre Holman Fire, which are burning on the Methow Valley Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee NF. 106 homes are under

Level 3 evacuations, 77 are in Level 2 and multiple others at the mouth of the Twisp River Valley remain in a Level 1.

- **Crescent Mountain:** The fire experienced limited growth yesterday, but no infrared was flown overnight. Containment 37%. Fire resources continued efforts in the Mission Peak area, including firing operations conducted by hotshot crews. The fire made a run towards Hoodoo Peak yesterday afternoon, and is not a threat at this time. Firefighters made progress on mop-up, patrol, and chipping around the northeast perimeter of the fire in the Twisp River area. Helitack crews and smokejumpers worked on hot spots detected along the fire edge near Slate Dip. Aircraft provided support to both fire suppression efforts and firing operations. More information is at: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6093/>
- **McLeod Fire:** Fire activity increased yesterday afternoon with advancement to the bottom of Sunshine Creek towards Lost River. Other efforts on the west side of the fire have been successful with handline development and air resource assistance. Crews continue to prepare primary line and work actively in the Sweet Grass Butte area. Suppression repair efforts also continue on the east side of the fire.



Figure 2 Cougar Creek Fire: Flare-up just south of Jimmy Peak.

Cougar Creek/Bannock Lake: (NW Team 10, IC Lawson) The Cougar Creek fire is at 42,412 (+0) acres and 71% contained and Bannock Lake Fire is at 487 acres. Yesterday afternoon, the Cougar Creek Fire flared up on the north edge, east of the Mad River. The fire was burning back towards itself east of the Mad River and south of Jimmy Creek, and holding well. More information is at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6053/>

Large Incidents - Oregon

Klondike Fire: (SA Red, IC Dueitt). The fire is at 117,458 acres (+2,054) and 51 percent contained. Most of yesterday's growth was in the Indigo Creek area. Aviation support continued, with favorable burning conditions supporting tactical firing operations that began late yesterday and continued today. Tactical firing operations are complete and holding on the west side, along the ridge between Saddle Mountain to Game Lake. To the north, where the fire has crossed Indigo Creek, crews have been working on tactical firing operations on Fishhook Peak to secure fire spread to the north, and are preparing a defensive contingency line to the northwest on Indigo Prairie. A few Level 3 evacuations remain in place with Level 2 evacuation orders for the community of Agness. Beginning Saturday at noon, Bear Camp Road will be closed to all non-fire traffic. This closure is due to tactical firing operations along Bear Camp Road. The road will remain closed until it is safe for public travel. The "Ride the Rogue" bike race remains on schedule for Sept. 8. More information is at: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5998/>.

Terwilliger Fire: NR Team, IC Connell is managing the 9,639-acre (+94) Terwilliger Fire with 35 percent containment. The fire is located on the Willamette National Forest near the Terwilliger (Cougar) Hot



Figure 3 Night burning along FS Road 140 on the Terwilliger

fire, continuing to hold the fireline and repair roads. The community of Sunstar remains under a Level 1 evacuation. Three additional residences are under an evacuation warning. There was smoke today but less than yesterday. A public meeting will be held Friday, 6 p.m., at Happy Camp. More information can be found at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5948/>.

Springs and burning on both sides of Cougar Reservoir. Today, crews continued mop up and chipping operations along the north and west flanks, especially around the FS1986 road system. To the northeast, crews monitored fire spread and are finalizing preparations as the fire continues to slowly descend north toward FS1993. Crews to the south are holding existing containment lines and patrolling for spot fires. A low pressure trough will enter the area bringing lower temperatures, higher humidity values and increased winds at higher elevations. When making the turn into ICP this morning, a local unit FS engine was hit by a car. One engine crew member was checked for injuries, and the civilian driving the other vehicle was transported. Information can be found at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6160/>

Natchez Fire: NW Team 7, IC Knerr. The fire grew another 1,164 acres yesterday to the west and is now 31,273 acres and 70 percent contained. On the west side, the team is working to hold the fire on the east of El Capitan. The Cyclone Gap has been successfully burned out to curtail fire spread. On the north and east sides of the